

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

Attached are four replacement drawing sheets including Figs. 1-4 that should replace the four original drawing sheets including Figs. 1-4. Figs. 1-4 are amended to re-locate the reference numerals and to include more uniform text.

Four Replacement Drawing Sheets

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

Submitted with this Amendment are four replacement drawing sheets including Figs. 1-4 which are to replace the original drawing sheets including Figs. 1-4. The replacement drawing sheets include changes to address most of the drawing objections set forth on page two of the Official Action.

With particular regard to the comment in the Official Action that parts in elevation must be shaded, the undersigned is not certain he understands this comment. Figs. 1 and 2 are front views of the pump body and pump plate respectively of the disclosed automatic transmission oil pump, while Fig. 4 is a front view of the pump body of the automatic transmission oil pump described in the background portion of the present application. Thus, as these are front view, it does not appear that shading would be proper under the circumstances. In the event the undersigned has not fully understood the Examiner's concern about shading parts shown in elevation, the Examiner is kindly asked to telephone the undersigned so that this matter can be addressed in the most expeditious manner.

In light of the replacement drawing sheets submitted with this Amendment, and the comments set forth above, withdrawal of the drawing objections is respectfully requested.

The specification is amended to address the points raised in the middle of page three of the Official Action. The claim objections set forth on page three of the Official Action are also addressed. Accordingly, withdrawal of those objections is respectfully requested.

The Official Action sets forth a claim rejection based on the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. This rejection is based on the claim wording reciting the first and second regulators. These regulators are simply the known regulator valves commonly used in automatic transmission oil pumps. It is respectfully submitted that one of ordinary skill in the art familiar with automatic transmission oil pumps would readily understand the function and purpose of these regulators. It is noted that the description of the known automatic transmission oil pump set forth in the background portion of the present application also refers to the same regulators. These regulators valves are described in the publication mentioned in the third full paragraph on page two of the application, a copy of which is provide as an attachment to this Amendment. As indicated in this publication, the regulator from which excess oil is returned to the first oil passage by way of the second oil passage (i.e., the first regulator) simply refers to the main regulator valve of the automatic transmission, while the regulator from which excess oil is returned to the pump suction port by way of the third oil passage (i.e., the second regulator) simply refers to the lubrication regulator valve of the automatic transmission. Because the function and purpose of these regulators is know to persons of ordinary skill in this art, it is respectfully submitted that it is not necessary to provide a detailed description of such aspects of the automatic transmission oil pump. Stated differently, and as recognized in § 2164.05(a) of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, the specification need not describe what is well known to those of ordinary skill in the art. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejection based on the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

In addition, Claim 1 is amended to address the various issues raised in the bottom half of page four and the top portion of page five of the Official Action. Claim 4 is also amended. Accordingly, withdrawal of the claim rejection based on the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. § 112 is respectfully requested.

Appreciation is expressed to Examiner Koczko for indicating that Claims 3 and 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Independent Claim 1 is amended to include the subject matter recited in Claims 2 and 3. It is thus respectfully submitted that independent Claim 1, and dependent Claim 4, are allowable.

Early and favorable action with respect to this application is respectfully requested.


Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: May 29, 2007

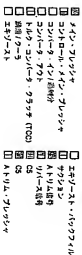
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折込み〇

油圧経路図-1速
1000シリーズTM、2000シリーズTM、2400シリーズTM



Lubrication regulator valve